



**United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management**

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Rogue National Wild and Scenic River Hellgate Recreation Section Hazardous Fuel Reduction Project



*Rand Neighborhood
Hazardous Fuel
Reduction Plan*

Introduction

In August 2003, the BLM completed the Environmental Assessment for the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River Hellgate Section Hazardous Fuel Reduction Project. The project's Decision Record was then completed in October 2003 (www.or.blm.gov/Medford). These two documents comprised the first of a two-stage planning process and established some strict sideboards for fuel reduction work within the Hellgate Section to ensure it met the standards for the Rogue Wild and Scenic River, the Medford District Resource Management Plan and the National Fire Plan.

These documents also established the basis for preparing site specific “neighborhood plans” that would be prepared in collaboration with the residents and landowners within each neighborhood area and with the fire suppression agencies. The intent is to better compliment the work and interests of all of the landowners to improve the potential of surviving and protecting homes and resource values in the event a wildfire occurs in the corridor.

The Rand Neighborhood Plan is one of these plans. It is organized and presented in two parts: I) an inventory and analysis of conditions in the neighborhood and the identification of the pertinent project design features already determined by the 2003 corridor wide plan noted above; and II) the proposed fuels treatments in the Rand neighborhood area organized by “zone”: home ignition zone, defense zone, threat zone and general forest zone (see EA p. 3).

The neighborhood plan presented here constitutes the proposed action that is addressed in the attached Categorical Exclusion NEPA analysis documentation. This is tiered to the earlier EA.

I. Rand Neighborhood Inventory: Key Element Description and Analysis of Key Planning Features

Resource	Key Neighbor Feature / Planning Element	Feature / Element Specifics (Identified in EA + on the ground updates)	Interpretation / Analysis	EA Direction (PA / PDF etc.)
Ownership	--	BLM (64%) State of Oregon (19%) Josephine County Parks (5%) Private ownership (12%)	--	--
Community at Risk	This neighborhood is <u>not</u> within a NFP mapped community at risk (CAR).	--	--	--
WUI Outside of Community at Risk	Yes	--	--	--
Residences / Businesses	Wickham Scenic Easement: 34-08-24 TL 500	See Rand Neighborhood Fuels Treatment Unit Map. Wood structure with metal roof and wood decks. Domestic water sources and PVC pipe from spring. Driveway. Auxiliary pump near residence w/ 2 tanks. Vegetation around structures.	Residence currently has a good defensible space and is well protected by previous fuel reduction work. Residential driveway is lined with 1-8" understory, creating an unsafe ingress/egress situation.	Home Ignition Zone – EA p. 3 PDF-B.10
	McKeen Scenic Easement: 34-08-24 TL 200	See Fuels Treatment Unit Map. Wood structure with metal roof and wood decks. Wood outbuildings with shake roofs. Driveway. Water tank and water line near house. Some Douglas-fir hazard trees located near parking area. Owner is placing a 1,200 gallon water tank above residence.	Residence currently has a good defensible space and is well protected by previous fuel reduction work. Vegetation cleared around structures. Residential driveway is lined with 1-4" understory and hazard trees near parking area, creating an unsafe ingress/egress situation.	Home Ignition Zone – EA p. 3 PDF-B.10
	Quinn Scenic Easement: 34-08-24 TL 600	See Fuels Treatment Unit Map. Wood structure with composition roof and large wood deck. Water tank and PVC pipe from spring. Driveway. Intermittent stream north of the residence w/ 2 dams and is the domestic water source.	-Residence has a moderately good defensible space due to previous work. Blackberry bushes adjacent to the house and within 10' of wood deck present some hazard but owner prefers to keep. Residential driveway is lined with blackberries and scotch broom, creating an unsafe ingress/egress situation.	Home Ignition Zone – EA p. 3
	Cooper Lifetime lease on BLM land	See Fuels Treatment Unit Map. Residence and 2 outbuildings; wood structure w/ composition roof. Understory cleared around the house. Mowed lawn and large garden. Large madrone and oaks create continuous canopy around the house.	-Residence has a well prepared defensible space due to previous work and ongoing maintenance. Residential waterline (1" PVC) from spring. Above ground waterline currently overgrown with vegetation.	Home Ignition Zone – EA p. 3
	Rand Administrative Site	4 residences and 12 structures. Wood structures and wood roofs. Irrigated lawns and gardens; landscaped vegetation around buildings; paved and graveled driveways.	Structures currently have a good defensible space. Wood roofs present defensibility problems, but mandated to maintain the historical aspect of the site. English ivy presents a fire hazard.	Home Ignition Zone – EA p. 3
	AT&T Commun. Site	See Fuels Treatment Unit Map	Located on State land.	Home Ignition Zone – EA p. 3
Developed Recreation Sites	Almeda Recreation Site (Josephine County Parks)	See EA Map 2B. County recreation area- grassy campsites w/ boat ramp.	-	Home Ignition Zone – EA p. 3
Defense Zone		See Fuels Treatment Unit Map	-	EA p. 4
Threat Zone	Identified Strategic Locations	None identified	-	-
General Forest Zone	N/A	-	-	-

Resource	Key Neighbor Feature / Planning Element	Feature / Element Specifics (Identified in EA + on the ground updates)	Interpretation / Analysis	EA Direction (PA / PDF etc.)
Visuals / VRM (an ORV)	Seen Areas	See EA Map 4B.	-Most of the crown canopy in the Rand Neighborhood can be seen from the river and from some shoreline. However, there will be no change to the characteristic landscape since crown canopy changes will not occur.	- Incremental entries over a period of 3-5 years will meet the VRM objectives. - See EA, p. 7, Table 3-1. The percent of change from the current condition at the time of each entry would be analyzed (Visual Contrast Rating) to insure the VRM Class I objectives will be met. (See KOPs A-N below.)
	Seldom Seen Area (topographically screened areas)	See EA Map 4B.	-The few seldom seen areas in the Rand Neighborhood are west of Merlin-Galice Road. -Vegetation in these areas can be altered, opening up the stands of trees to move the current condition to, or closer to, the desired stand condition. VRM Class I objectives will be met.	- See EA, p. 7, Table 3-1. - The degree of change to the current condition may be greater to move the current condition to the desired stand condition.
	Key Observation Point A	Beginning of project area, parking pullout along Merlin-Galice Road.	-Project activity will not be visible from this KOP. Activity would not occur on these steep slopes or to the edge of the road cut. -There will be no disturbance to the canopy; focal point changes to landscape characteristics will not occur.	- Use Visual Contrast Rating (VCR) method.
	Key Observation Point B	Parking pullout along Merlin-Galice Road, upstream from Chair Recreation Site.	-Project activity will not be visible from this KOP. Activity would not occur on these steep slopes or to the edge of the road cut.	- Use VCR method.
	Key Observation Point C	Rand recreation site ingress/egress.	-There will be no disturbance to the canopy; focal point views driving the Merlin-Galice Road will not be changed. -Also see Roadside Buffer, p.5.	App. B, p. 3, PDF- B.6: In treatment areas adjacent to major roads, a 50' buffer of untreated vegetation would be retained to provide screening for wildlife, protect the cut and fill slopes, and to discourage off-highway vehicle use. Use VCR method.
	Key Observation Point D	Rand recreation site road.	-The degree of change would be low and would not attract attention. Vegetation would be altered slightly, opening up the stands of trees. Multiple entries over a period of 3-5 years will occur to meet VRM Class I objectives.	- Use VCR method.
	Key Observation Point E	Rand recreation site paved parking area.	-The degree of change would be low and would not attract attention. Vegetation would be altered slightly, opening up the stands of trees. Multiple entries over a period of 3-5 years will occur to meet VRM Class I objectives. Vegetation treatment diameter range is not >10" DBH; alteration of the characteristic landscape will not occur. See Roadside Buffer, p.5.	- Use VCR method.
	Key Observation Point F	Rand recreation site paved parking area.	-The degree of change would be low and would not attract attention. Vegetation would be altered slightly, opening up the stands of trees. Multiple entries over a 3 - 5 year period to meet VRM Class I objectives. -Vegetation treatment ≤10" DBH, thus alteration of the characteristic landscape will not occur to these areas. -See Roadside Buffer below.	- Use VCR method.
	Key Observation Point G	Rand recreation site boat ramp (gravel bar).	-There will be no disturbance to the canopy (background); change to the characteristic landscape will not occur.	- Use VCR method.

	Key Observation Point H	Rand recreation site boat ramp (gravel bar).	-Forested edged (east side boundary on river side) will not change. Vegetation treatment diameter range is $\leq 10''$ DBH, thus alteration of the characteristic landscape will not occur. -Immediate foreground canopy layers will screen project activity.	- Use VCR method.
	Key Observation Point I	Rand recreation site boat ramp (bench above gravel bar).	-Immediate foreground will not receive treatment; vegetation will screen activity.	- Use VCR method.
	Key Observation Point J	Rand recreation site road leaving lower parking bench.	- The degree of change would be low and would not attract attention. Vegetation would be altered slightly, opening up the stands of trees.	- Use VCR method.
	Key Observation Point K	Rand Visitor Center parking lot.	-Vegetation will not be altered; vegetation will screen project activity. Canopy layers will adequately screen project activity.	App. B, p. 3, PDF- B.6. - Use VCR method.
	Key Observation Point L	Merlin-Galice Road pullout .5 miles north of the Rand Visitor Center.	-Vegetation will not be altered; vegetation will screen project activity (PDF B.6). -Vegetation treatment diameter range is 1–4'' DBH, thus alteration of the characteristic landscape will not be obvious, meeting VRM objectives. -Vegetation would be altered slightly, opening up the tree stands. Canopy layers will screen project activity.	App. B, p. 3, PDF- B.6. - Use VCR method.
	Key Observation Point M	Almeda Park Kiosk.	-Vegetation along both sides of the road will provide screening. Canopy layers will screen project activity.	VCR method.
	Key Observation Point N	Parking pull out area across from Almeda Mine.	-The degree of change would be low and would not attract attention. Vegetation would be altered slightly, opening up the tree stands. Canopy layers will screen project activity.	App. B, p. 3, PDF- B.6. - Use VCR method.
Soils	Very Steep Soils Susceptible to Ravel	See Fuels Treatment Unit Map. There is a larger area of steep slopes/sensitive soils than initially mapped in the EA (Map 6).	-No broadcast burning on areas of fragile very steep soils susceptible to ravel. Hand pile slash, limiting piles to ≤ 30 piles/acre.	- PDF B.8, App. 2 p. 5.
Fisheries	Riparian Reserves	Only Intermittent streams without fish are present in the Fuel treatment area.	-Guidance for home ignition zone is to keep treatments $>50'$ from streams and retain trees $>12''$ DBH and 60% canopy closure within 150' of streams. -All other areas in prescription: no treatment, pile burning or direct ignition within 50' of streams. -Retain trees $>12''$ DBH and 60% canopy closure within 150' of streams.	- App.B, Section B.5, Riparian Reserves, p. 2.
Wildlife	S&M Species	None located during surveys.		
	Osprey Nest Trees	Two nest sites. See Neighborhood Map 14B.	-Seasonal restriction within $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of occupied nest trees. March 1 to August 15.	PDF Table B-1. Seasonal Operating Restriction for Occupied Sites.
	Great Blue Heron Rookery	One rookery. See Neighborhood Map 14B.	-Seasonal restriction within $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of occupied nest trees. March 1 to August 1.	PDF Table B-1. Seasonal Operating Restrictions for Occupied Sites.
	Northern Spotted Owl Critical Habitat	Entire neighborhood is within CHU 65.	-Constraint: retain 60% canopy closure to avoid degrading suitable habitat.	PDF – p. 3: No actions would be implemented that would adversely modify critical habitat.
	Wildlife Habitat Diversity	Specific areas within units buffered as “no treatment” include cultural site protection, roadside buffer, and riparian reserve areas.		PDF – p. 3: - Approximately 15 to 20% of each treatment unit would be left untreated to retain dense stands in each unit to benefit terrestrial bird nesting and foraging. Maintain no treatment areas to maintain structural diversity across the project area.

	Roadside Buffer	Areas along the Merlin-Galice Road and the Rand Recreation Site road.	Maintain a 50' no treatment area along these roads.	App. B, p. 3, PDF- B.6: - Areas adjacent to major roads: a 50' buffer of untreated vegetation will be retained to provide screening for wildlife, protect cut and fill slopes, and to discourage off-highway vehicle use.
Botanical	Noxious Weeds	See EA Map 16B.		
	Special Status Species	None located during surveys.		
Infrastructure	Waterlines, Septic Systems, and Utilities	Infrastructure associated with Rand Visitor Center and private lands. Rand domestic water tank in Sec 25; water source in North Star Gulch.	-Several water systems, septic systems, and utilities must be protected. Maintain a minimum 25' no treatment buffer around domestic water sources. -No burning within 50' of the Rand water tank/source.	App. B, p. 8, PDF- B.10: Waterlines, septic systems, and underground utilities would be identified and protected.
Vegetation	Vegetation Type	Tanoak sprouting from fuels activities on Douglas-fir/tanoak plant associations.	- It is anticipated that post-monitoring will display the voracity of tanoak sprouting; maintenance steps could be undertaken at that time.	App. B, p. 2, PDF- B.3: Careful attention will be paid to areas where the ecological and vegetation conditions are such that, if treated with great intensity, the vegetative response may create problems (e.g., sprouting with resultant high fire conditions in the short, near and long terms). In these areas, treatments would be implemented that are less intensive than those suggested as "permissible" under the alternative descriptions noted above. Prescriptions requiring a series of incremental steps or treatments would be initiated in these conditions. This is to preclude the creation of ecological or fire hazard conditions that are similar to or worse than those currently existing or that would create intensive long term maintenance work.
Cultural Resources	18 Recorded Sites	Cultural sites including wooden features located in the project area.	Cultural sites will be buffered and no treatments allowed within 10' of the buffered area except where treatments will enhance cultural sites (see Part II).	PA page 3, PDF Appendix B page 5.
	Rand Administrative Site (National Register of Historic Places Site)	12 structures; relatively flat grassy area.	Historic buildings.	
Fire and Fuels	Fuel Hazard Condition Classes	Approximately 95% of the neighborhood is currently in Fuel Condition Class (FCC) 3; remainder is 1 & 2	-FCC 3 is a volatile class due to past fire exclusion. Intense fires can occur and are difficult to contain.	- See EA Map 10B. - See EA Glossary.
	Fuel Models (FM)	Fuel Models present in the neighborhood: 6, 8, 9, and 10.	-FM 6: Moderate dense brush. Needs wind to carry a fire. Moderately suppressible. -FM 8: Timber type with little ground or ladder fuel. A comparatively safe and desirable condition. -FM 9: Timber and hardwood with moderate fire danger due to ladder fuels and stand density. Can be difficult to suppress due to large flame lengths. -FM 10: Timber type with heavy ground litter, dense ladder fuels, high stand density, high crown fire potential.	--
	Suppression – Strategic Considerations	None identified.		

II. Proposed Action:

A. Home Ignition Zones: The **home ignition zone** (defensible space) is centered on residences, businesses, and important structures and extends outward for 50 – 200', depending on topography and adjacent vegetation type.

BLM PROPERTIES	PROPOSED ACTION	
Rand Administrative Site – Unit 24-06 0.5 ac	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Plant Series: DF / PP, Veg CC: Mid Seral, Fuel Models (FM): 10 and FCC: 3. English ivy, an invasive non-native weed species is thick and is killing a number of trees. Overstory consists of DF and a sequoia tree. Understory has a number of suppressed DF and other hardwoods. Unit is flat and immediately adjacent to the Rand Administrative site and River House. -DFC: FM 8 conditions in areas currently with FM 10. -River House: Remove live and dead 1-6" diameter undergrowth, ladder fuels, dead snags <10" DBH, and dead and down fuels in the 10 to 100-hr. time lag fuel class. Clear vegetation within 15' of structure with the exception of ferns and grass. Slash, prune, hand pile, and hand pile burning (Pile density estimated to be 20-30 piles/acre. Remove English ivy. Follow-up maintenance: Chipping could replace the use of hand pile and hand pile burning; continue English ivy removal. 	
Cooper Lease on BLM 2.5 ac	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintain a minimum 50' no treatment buffer around domestic water sources. No pile burning within 25' of water lines. - Brush access road 4' beyond the edges of road and 14' vertical. Reduce fuels adjacent to road. (Driveway is lined with blackberries and scotch broom.) - Thin the canopy of oak and madrone in the 4-12" DBH size. - Remove blackberries, English Ivy, grape vines and scotch broom north of the house. Cultural resources specialist will be present when this work is done to insure cultural resources are protected. - Thinning and pruning of target vegetation around house. Material in the 3 -12" size class may provide firewood. Hand pile and burn smaller material. Slashing, hand piling, and hand pile burning of brush with 20-30 piles/acre estimated. 	
PRIVATE PROPERTIES	SUGGESTED / RECOMMENDED TREATMENTS	
AT&T Communication Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Create a 50' defensible space around communication site. 	
Wickham 34-08-24 Tax Lot 500 7.2 ac	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Brush access road 4' beyond the edges of road and 14' vertical. Reduce fuels adjacent to road. - Maintain a 50+' no treatment buffer around domestic water sources. No pile burning within 25' of water lines. - Live and dead 1 – 8" diameter understory growth, ladder fuels, and dead and down fuels in the 10 to 100-hr. time lag fuel class to the east and north of the residence. - Area east of residence would be treated by prescribed burning as part of the Rand 24-04 unit treatments. - Property owner to maintain vegetation on entire property through slashing as needed to suppress new vegetation growth. 	
McKeen 34-08-24 Tax Lot 200 1.4 ac	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Brush access road 4' beyond the edges of road and 14' vertical. Reduce adjacent to road. - Maintain a 50+' no treatment buffer around domestic water sources. No pile burning within 25' of water lines and water tank. - Live and dead 1 – 12" DBH understory growth, ladder fuels, and dead and down fuels in the 10 - 100-hr. time lag fuel class to the east and north of residence. - Property owner will maintain vegetation on entire property through slashing as needed to suppress new vegetation growth. 	
Quinn 34-08-24 Tax Lot 600 1.5 ac	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Brush access road 4' beyond the edges of road and 14' vertical. Reduce fuels adjacent to road. - Maintain a 50+' no treatment buffer around domestic water sources. No pile burning within 25' of water lines. - Slashing of 1 – 4" diameter material including blackberries, hand piling, and hand pile burning. Piles per acre are estimated to be 10 piles/acre. Homeowner will treat any material 4 – 12" diameter to be used for firewood. This 4 – 12" size class is rather limited on the property. - Slashing of new growth may be required following primary treatment. Future maintenance underburn to keep growth of vegetation in check may be considered as an alternative to slashing if such treatment occurs on Rand-24-05. - Remove hazard trees. - Property owner would like to keep blackberries in place immediately behind house. 	

B. Defense Zone: The **defense zone** extends outward from structures for approximately 0.25 mile or until it reaches the project area boundary. The fuel treatment objective is to protect loss of life and property by creating defensible space.

Unit (see Map)	Owner- ship	Acres	Unit Description	Desired Future Condition	Target Vegetation / Fuel	Proposed Action		Pertinent Neighborhood Feature (see Table 1)	Comments / Concerns
						Initial Treatment / Primary Treatment (See Appendix A: Criteria for Selecting Leave Vegetation.)	Follow-up Treatment / Maintenance Treat		
19-03	BLM / State	3.5	Plant Series: Douglas-fir (DF) Veg Condition Class (CC): Mid Seral Fuel Model: 8 Fuel Condition Class (FCC): 2 Understory of light 1-4" DBH suppressed DF with a minor hardwood component. Overstory is primarily 12-20" DBH DF with a few scattered larger madrones and oaks. A moderate leaf and needle layer occurs along a flat to moderate slope.	Maintain FM 8 conditions over the long term to decrease chance of wildfire escapes.	Live and dead 1- 4" diameter undergrowth; pockets of suppressed DF. Concentrations of dead and down fuels in the 10 to 100-hr. time lag fuel class.	Selective slashing with a residual 14'x14' conifer and 20'x20' shrub / hardwood spacing. Hand pile and pile burn. Pile density estimated to be 20-30 piles/acre.	Hand slashing of new growth with handpile and burn to maintain FM 8 conditions over the long term.	Unit is around an AT&T facility. Care needed to preclude impacting this facility. Treatments will not occur within the fenced enclosure.	Treatments identified would occur on State land.
24-01A	BLM	11.9	Plant Series: Tanoak (TO) / DF Veg CC (CC): Mature Fuel Models: 8, 10 FCC: 2 Mature open forest stand on upper reach transitioning to pockets of brush in understory.	Convert areas of FM 10 to FM 8 conditions. Maintain FM 8 conditions over the long term to decrease chance of wildfire escapes.	Live and dead 1- 4" diameter undergrowth, pockets of suppressed DF. Concentrations of dead and down fuels in the 10 to 100-hr. time lag fuel class.	- Selective slashing with residual spacing of 14'x14' conifer and 20'x20' shrub/hardwood. Hand pile and burn piles. Pile density estimated to be 20-30 piles/acre. - Multiple entries over a 3-5 year period needed due to very steep soils susceptible to ravel.	Hand slashing of new growth as needed. Hand pile and burn.	- Fragile very steep soils susceptible to ravel. (See Fuel Treatment Map) - A 1" PVC water line for residential water follows an historic mining ditch.	- All piles need to be constructed away from the mining ditch and pipeline. - Directional felling away from ditch and waterline. - Fragile very steep slopes - ≤ 30 piles/ac.
24-01B	BLM	7.4	Plant Series: TO / DF Veg CC: Mid Seral Fuel Models: 8, 10 FCC: 2 Mature open forest stand on upper reach transitioning to pockets of brush in understory.	Convert areas of FM 10 to FM 8 conditions. Maintain FM 8 conditions over the long term to decrease chance of wildfire escapes.	Live and dead 1- 4" diameter undergrowth, pockets of suppressed DF, concentrations of dead and down fuels in the 10 to 100-hr. time lag fuel class.	- Selective slashing with residual spacing of 14'x14' conifer and 20'x20' shrub/hardwood. Hand pile and burn piles. Pile density estimated to be 20-30 piles/acre. - Multiple entries over a 3-5 year period needed due to very steep soils susceptible to ravel.	Hand slashing of new growth as needed. Hand pile and burn.	- Part of unit fragile very steep soils susceptible to ravel. (see Fuels treatment map) - A 1" PVC water line for residential water follows an historic mining ditch.	- All piles need to be constructed away from the mining ditch and pipeline. - Directional felling away from ditch and waterline. - Fragile very steep slopes - ≤ 30 piles/ac.
24-02A	State	0.9	Plant Series: DF/TO, DF Veg CC: Mid Seral Fuel Models: 9, 6, 10 FCC: 2/3 Understory of suppressed 1-4"	Convert areas of FM 9 & 10 to FM 8 conditions to decrease the potential for	Live and dead 1- 4" diameter undergrowth and dead and down fuels in the 10 to	- Selective slashing to a residual spacing of 14'x14' conifer and 20'x20' shrub/hardwood spacing. Hand pile and burn piles.	- Maintenance underburn to keep growth of vegetation in check. Spring underburn to limit area	- Fragile very steep soils susceptible to ravel; limit density of burn piles ≤30/ac. (See Fuels treatment map).	- Soil concerns: - ≤ 30 piles/ac. - <i>Seasonal restrictions for wildlife protection</i> (osprey nest and several great blue heron nests occur NW of unit.)

Unit (see Map)	Owner- ship	Acres	Unit Description	Desired Future Condition	Target Vegetation / Fuel	Proposed Action		Pertinent Neighborhood Feature (see Table 1)	Comments / Concerns
						Initial Treatment / Primary Treatment (See Appendix A: Criteria for Selecting Leave Vegetation.)	Follow-up Treatment / Maintenance Treat		
			DBH DF, madrone, and tanoak. Overstory of pole to mid-seral stage DF with some PP. - Moderate dead and down material in the 10 to 100-hr. time lag fuel class contribute to an increased fuel loading along with decadent and increasing brush component. - A number of old, grown over logging spur roads extend to the north into the unit from the access road.	wildfire escape. Convert brush dominated areas (FM 6) to oak savannah (FM 2).	100-hr. time lag fuel class.	Pile density estimated to be 30 piles/acre.	with exposed mineral soil to 20-30% of unit. Treatments concentrated on potential problem sprouting of tanoak and other vegetation. - Slashing of new growth is an alternative to underburning, especially if tanoak responds vigorously. Response is expected to be minimal due to overstory canopy closure.	- Nearby osprey and heron nests.	
24-02B	State	7.3	Plant Series: DF/TO; DF Veg CC: Mid Seral Fuel Models: 9, 6, 10 FCC: 2/3 - Understory of suppressed 1-4" DBH DF, madrone, and tanoak. Overstory of pole to mid-seral stage DF with some PP. - Moderate dead and down material in the 10 to 100-hr. time lag fuel class contribute to an increased fuel loading along with decadent and increasing brush component. - A number of over-grown logging spur roads extend to the north into the unit from the access road.	- Convert areas of FM 9 & 10 to FM 8 conditions to decrease wildfire escape potential. - Convert brush dominated areas (FM 6) to oak savannah (FM 2).	Live and dead 1-6" diameter undergrowth and dead and down fuels in the 10 to 100-hr. time lag fuel class.	Selective slashing to residual spacing of 14'x14' conifer and 20'x20' shrub/hardwood spacing. Hand pile burn piles. Potential pile density estimated to be 30-40 piles/acre. On fragile soil areas limit to 30 / acre.	- Slashing of new growth, especially if tanoak responds vigorously following initial treatment. Minimal response of tanoak expected due to residual canopy closure.	- Part of unit fragile very steep soils susceptible to ravel; limit density of burn piles. (see Fuels Treatment Map) - Nearby osprey and heron nests NW of unit.	- Soil concerns: ≤30 piles/acre. - <i>Seasonal restrictions due to wildlife considerations:</i> Operations are restricted from 15 March to 1 August within 1/4 mile of these nest sites.
24-04	BLM / State	47.4	Plant Series: DF Veg CC: Mid Seral Fuel Models: 8, 9 FCC: 2/3 - Understory of light DF with some small high density areas along with hardwood component. Overstory is primarily DF with scattered larger madrones and oaks. Heavy leaf litter and needle layer. - Areas of very steep terrain.	Convert areas of FM 9 to FM 8 to decrease potential of wildfire escape. - Maintain areas of FM 8.	1- 4" diameter undergrowth, pockets of dense DF. - Concentrations of dead and down fuels in the 10 to 100-hr. time lag fuel class.	- Selective slashing to residual spacing of 14'x14' conifer and 20'x20' shrub/hardwood. Hand pile and burn. Potential pile density estimated to be 30-40 acre. On fragile soil areas limit to 30 / acre.	- A maintenance underburn to control vegetation regrowth may be required 5 to 10 years following primary treatment. Slashing and handpiling may be used as an alternative - Spring underburn in a manner such that only 20-30% of area has exposed mineral soil	- Some areas of very steep soils susceptible to ravel, especially in the southern part of unit. (See fuels treatment map). - Lower portion of unit runs along and is visible from Merlin-Galice Road. - Two osprey nests are located within the unit: one across from the Rand Administrative Site and one on State Parks land	Treatments will occur in understory. Only potential for treatment being seen from river would be occasional scorching from prescribed burning and residual impact on overstory trees. - Maintenance underburning would create a mosaic pattern throughout the unit with minimal fuel consumption in 15 to 20% of the unit. Ignition pattern will not directly ignite

Unit (see Map)	Owner- ship	Acres	Unit Description	Desired Future Condition	Target Vegetation / Fuel	Proposed Action		Pertinent Neighborhood Feature (see Table 1)	Comments / Concerns
						Initial Treatment / Primary Treatment (See Appendix A: Criteria for Selecting Leave Vegetation.)	Follow-up Treatment / Maintenance Treat		
							concentrating on potential problem sprouting of tanoak and other vegetation.	(TL504). Operations are restricted from March 15 to August 1 within 1/4 mile of nesting Ospreys.	in riparian draws and around rock outcroppings. Fire can back into these areas, but will not be forced. - Wildlife seasonal restrictions will require a fall burn for the unit if nests are active - Trees identified for retention are dogwood, vine maple, big leaf maple. - - Fragile very steep slopes - ≤ 30 piles/ac. - Visual Resource Specialist to be present during work.
24-05	BLM / State	14.4	Plant Series: DF Veg CC: Mid Seral Fuel Models: 9, 6, 10 FCC: 2/3 - Understory of light DF with some small dense thickets along with a heavier hardwood / brush component primarily composed of older madrone. Overstory is primarily DF with scattered larger madrones and oaks. Heavy leaf litter layer. - Very steep terrain.	Convert areas of FM 9 & 10 to FM 8 to reduce potential for wildfire escape. Convert brush dominated areas (FM 6) to oak savannah (FM2).	Live and dead 1–4” diameter undergrowth, including pockets of DF dog hair - thickets and decadent madrone. Concentrations of dead and down fuels in the 10 to 100-hr. time lag class.	All treatments are in the understory. Selective slashing to a spacing of 14’x14’ conifer and 20’x20’ shrub/hardwood. Hand pile burn piles. Pile density is estimated to be 20-30 piles/acre.	- Maintenance underburn to control vegetation growth may be appropriate in 5-10 years. Slashing and handpiling / burning new growth may be viable alternative to underburning. - Spring underburn 20-30% of area maximum exposed mineral soil, concentrating on potential problem sprouting of tanoak and other vegetation.	- Two non-vascular BLM tracking species plant sites (<i>Fissidens grandifrons</i>) with no treatment buffer. - Fragile very steep soils susceptible to ravel. If ≥30 piles/acre needed, utilize double entry on burning of hand piles (i.e., burn over two seasons). - Osprey nest below unit across from Rand restricts operations between March 15 to Aug 1 within 1/4 mile of nesting Ospreys.	- An old logging road outside of corridor along top of unit. Use of this as a holding feature for underburn, would require some treatment outside of river corridor. Fuels above logging road would be reduced for at least one chain off of road. - Buffering would occur for 50’ on both sides of North Star Gulch adding to the botany buffers and the 15 – 20% buffering requirement. - Soil concerns if exceed 30 piles/acre. If this occurs, utilize a double entry treatment.
24-07	BLM	4.5	Plant Series: DF/ PP, DF/ Poison Oak (PO) Veg CC: Mid Seral Fuel Models: 9, 10 FCC: 3 - Understory of suppressed 1-5” DBH; 6-10”DBH mid-story and a mid-seral stage of overstory DF with PP. - Dead and down material in the 10 to 100-hr. time lag fuel class contribute to an increased fuel loading. - Unit is relatively flat.	Convert areas of FM 9 & 10 to FM 8 to reduce potential for wildfire escape.	Live and dead 1–5” and 6-10” diameter undergrowth, ladder fuels, dead snags <10” DBH, and dead and down fuels in the 10 to 100-hr. time lag fuel class.	- Selective slashing to a residual 14’x14’ conifer and 20’x20’ shrub/ hardwood spacing. Prune ladder fuels. Pile density estimated to be 30-40 piles/acre. - Area to be treated with variable density thinning. 20% to 30% of existing vegetation may be removed from all size classes up to 12” DBH. Hand pile and burn slash only in openings or where there will be no canopy scorch. If burning cannot meet these	- Chipping could be used in place of hand pile and burn following slashing treatment. - Maintenance underburn may be considered to keep growth of vegetation in check following primary treatment outside of areas where cultural resource issues can be mitigated.	- - Numerous cultural sites. No burning will occur within 20’ of flagged cultural sites. No piles are to be placed on or in the vicinity of any flagged or identified cultural sites. - Directional falling of trees away from cultural sites to protect site integrity.	- Potential for Special Forest Products. - Treatments are in the understory on flat terrain and cannot be viewed from river. Vegetation screens unit. - Buffering around cultural resources should be sufficient to meet 15–20% buffering requirements. - No piles are to be placed on or in the vicinity of any identified cultural sites. No burning within 20’ of cultural sites. Directional felling away from site buffers.

Unit (see Map)	Owner- ship	Acres	Unit Description	Desired Future Condition	Target Vegetation / Fuel	Proposed Action		Pertinent Neighborhood Feature (see Table 1)	Comments / Concerns
						Initial Treatment / Primary Treatment (See Appendix A: Criteria for Selecting Leave Vegetation.)	Follow-up Treatment / Maintenance Treat		
						restrictions, vegetation will be chipped on site or pulled from the unit, piled and burned along the Rand Recreation Site road in specified areas. - Multiple treatments may be needed to meet site specific objectives.			- Cultural resources specialist to be present during work. -Visual Resource Specialist to be present during work.
24-08	BLM	2.4	Plant Series: DF/PP, DF/PO Veg CC: Mid Seral Fuel Models: 4, 9, 10 FCC: 3 - Understory of suppressed 1-5" DBH and 6-10"DBH mid-story; mid seral stage of overstory DF with PP. Dead and down material in the 10 to 100-hr. time lag fuel class are contributing to an increased fuel loading. - Unit is relatively flat and adjacent to the river and Rand site (Bunk House).	Convert areas of FM 9 & 10 to FM 8 to reduce potential for wildfire escape. Convert FM 4 heavy brush component to a FM 5.	Live and dead 1-5" and 6-10" diameter undergrowth, dead snags <10" DBH, and dead and down fuels in the 10 to 100-hr. time lag fuel class.	- Selective slashing to a residual spacing of 14'x14' conifer and 20'x20' shrub/hardwood. Potential pile density estimated to be 40-50 acre. - Area will be treated with variable density thinning. 20% to 30% of existing vegetation will be removed from all size classes up to 12"DBH. Vegetation will be hand piled and burned only in openings or where there will be no canopy scorch. If burning cannot meet these restrictions, vegetation will be chipped on site or pulled from the unit, piled and burned along the Rand Recreation Site road in specified areas. - Multiple treatments may be needed to meet site specific objectives.	Chipping could be used as an alternative to hand pile and hand pile burning following the slashing treatment.	Large number of cultural features.	- Potential for Special Forest Products for treatment of 6-10" DBH trees. This treatment could occur following primary understory treatment or could occur concurrently treatment. - No piles are to be placed on or in the vicinity of any identified cultural sites. No burning within 20' of cultural sites. Directional felling away from site buffers. - Cultural resources specialist to be present during work. -Visual Resource Specialist to be present during work.
24-09	BLM	8.1	Plant Series: DF/PP, DF/PO Veg CC: Mid Seral Fuel Models: 9, 10 FCC: 3 - Unit consists of a suppressed 1-5" diameter understory, 0-8" DBH mid-story, and a mid-seral stage of overstory DF including a PP component. Dead and down material in the 10 to 100-hr time lag fuel class contribute to an increased fuel loading.	Convert areas of FM 9 & 10 to FM 8 to reduce potential for wildfire escape.	Live and dead 1 – 5" and 6-10" diameter undergrowth, dead snags < 10" DBH, and dead and down fuels in the 10 to 100-hr time lag fuel class.	- East and outside of reservoirs, selective slashing with 14'x14' conifer and 20'x20' shrub/hardwood residual spacing, hand piling, and hand pile burning. Potential pile density estimated to be 40-60/acre. Around reservoirs, slash vegetation growing up in rock walls and interior sections of reservoirs.	Maintenance underburn to keep growth of vegetation in check following primary treatment outside of areas where cultural resource issues can be mitigated.		- Cultural Resources is interested in keeping vegetation off of reservoir and removing <3" diameter vegetation. Site will be limited to slashing. - Directional felling should be away from cut banks, tailings, etc. Cut manzanita growing out of mining tailings. Review procedures for working around cultural sites to any crews. - No piles are to be placed on or

Unit (see Map)	Owner- ship	Acres	Unit Description	Desired Future Condition	Target Vegetation / Fuel	Proposed Action		Pertinent Neighborhood Feature (see Table 1)	Comments / Concerns
						Initial Treatment / Primary Treatment (See Appendix A: Criteria for Selecting Leave Vegetation.)	Follow-up Treatment / Maintenance Treat		
			- Several cultural sites are located in the unit.			- Pull or cut scotch broom.			in the vicinity of any identified cultural sites. No burning within 20' of cultural sites. Directional felling away from site buffers. - Potential for Special Forest Products for treatment of 6-10" diameter trees. This could occur concurrently or following primary treatment. Vehicles can be used on historic road bed, but with caution. If vehicles are disturbing the road bed, use on road bed will be discontinued. - Treatments are primarily in the understory, on flat terrain and cannot be seen from river; vegetation screens unit. - Cultural resources specialist to be present during work. - Visual Resource Specialist to be present during work.
24-10A		3.6	Plant Series: DF/PP Veg CC: Mid Seral Fuel Models: 9, 10 FCC: 3 - Unit consists of a suppressed 1-6" diameter understory, 8-12" DBH mid-story, and a mid-seral stage of overstory DF w/ a PP component. Dead and down material in the 10 to 100-hr. time lag fuel class contribute to fuel loading along with dead madrone cut for firewood along interior road. - Unit is relatively flat near Galice Road, with an increasing slope to the west.	Convert areas of FM 9 & 10 to FM 8 to reduce potential for wildfire escape.	Live and dead 1-12" diameter undergrowth and dead and down fuels in the 10 to 100-hr time lag fuel class.	- Selective slashing with residual spacing of 14'x14' conifer and 20'x20' shrub/hardwood, hand piling with pile burning. - Potential pile density estimated to be 30-40 piles/acre.	Maintenance underburn to keep growth of vegetation in check following primary treatment outside of areas where cultural resource issues can be mitigated.	Several cultural sites in the unit.	- Potential for SFP sales for treatment of 8-12" DBH trees north of unnamed gulch. Treatment could occur concurrently or after primary treatment. - Buffer cultural sites. No treatments to occur within buffered areas and no hand pile and burning within 20' of the flagging. - Trees identified for retention are dogwood, vine maple, big leaf maple. - Cultural resources specialist to be present during work. - Visual Resource Specialist to be present during work.
24-10B		8.9	Plant Series: DF/PP Veg CC: Mid Seral Fuel Models: 9, 10 FCC: 3 - Unit consists of a suppressed 1-6" DBH understory, 8-12" DBH	Convert areas of FM 9 & 10 to FM 8 to reduce potential for wildfire escape.	Live and dead 1 – 6" diameter undergrowth and dead and down fuels in the 10 to 100-hr time lag	- Selective slashing with 14'x14' conifer and 20'x20' shrub/hardwood spacing. Hand pile and burn piles. Potential pile density estimated to be 30-40/acre.	Maintenance underburn to keep growth of vegetation in check following primary treatment outside of areas with cultural	Several cultural sites are located throughout the unit including a reservoir (south end of unit near Rand Water Tank).	Cultural interest is keeping vegetation off of reservoir and removing <3" diameter vegetation. Protect the apple tree within the reservoir. - Directional felling away from

Unit (see Map)	Owner- ship	Acres	Unit Description	Desired Future Condition	Target Vegetation / Fuel	Proposed Action		Pertinent Neighborhood Feature (see Table 1)	Comments / Concerns
						Initial Treatment / Primary Treatment (See Appendix A: Criteria for Selecting Leave Vegetation.)	Follow-up Treatment / Maintenance Treat		
			mid-story, and a mid-seral stage of overstory DF with a PP component. Dead and down material in the 10 to 100-hr time lag fuel class are contributing to fuel loading. - Several interior roads go through unit including one that loops off of the Galice Road and one from the loop road to the Rand water tank. The water line from the Rand water tank to the Rand Administrative Site runs through the unit. The pipe is exposed at the North Star Gulch. - Unit has a relatively flat base off of Galice Road, increasing slope toward the west.		fuel class.	- Around reservoir, only slash vegetation growing up in rock walls and in the interior sections of reservoir. - Treatment on and around historic reservoir near Rand Water Tank will be limited to slashing. - Cut manzanita growing out of mining tailings.	resources.		cutbanks, tailings, etc. - Cultural resources specialist to be present during work. - Trees identified for retention are dogwood, vine maple, big leaf maple. - Visual Resource Specialist to be present during work.
25-11B		7.5	Plant Series: DF / PP; DF / TO Veg CC: Mid Seral Fuel Models: 8,9,10 FCC: 2 / 3 - Suppressed 1-4" diameter understory of DF, madrone, and tanoak and a mid-seral stage of overstory DF with PP and SP. Moderate dead and down material in the 10 to 100-hr. time lag fuel class are contribute to fuel load along with decadent brush component. - The Rand water line from the source to the tank runs along the southern edge of unit. - Several cultural sites are located throughout the unit including a reservoir (upper to middle part of unit), mining ditches, mine adit, and numerous metal pipes throughout the unit. - Unit has the steepest slope within the neighborhood. The southern aspect above the trail between the water source and water tank is visible from the river.	Retain current FM 8 and convert areas of FM 9 & 10 to FM 8 to reduce potential for wildfire escape.	Live and dead 1-4" diameter undergrowth and dead and down fuels in the 10 to 100-hr. time lag fuel class.	Selective slashing with residuals spaced 14'x14' conifer and 20'x20' shrub/hardwood spacing. Hand pile burn piles. Potential pile density estimated to be 30-40 piles/acre. Cut manzanita growing out of mining tailings.	- Maintenance underburn to keep growth of vegetation in check following primary treatment outside of cultural sites. Is possible but problematic due to limited access. Slashing of new growth may be required as an alternative especially if there is a vigorous tanoak response. (Overstory shading expected to minimize tanoak response.		- Area above trail to ridge line is visible from river. Treatments will be such that less then 20% change will be noticeable from the river and Galice Road. - Tanoak in the upper reaches of the unit is potential concern. - Buffered cultural sites. No hand pile and burn to occur within 20' of the cultural flagging. Cultural Resource interest in keeping vegetation off of reservoir and removing <3" diameter vegetation. - Directional falling should be away from cutbanks, tailings, etc. - Buffer for 50' on both sides of North Star gulch & unnamed drainage through the center of the unit. No treatment adjacent to Hooks Gulch will add to the 15-20% buffering requirements.

C. Threat Zone: The **threat zone** extends for 1.25 miles beyond the defense zone.

Unit	Owner -ship	Ac	Unit Description	Desired Future Condition	Proposed Action			Key Neighborhood feature (see Table 1)	Comments / Concerns
					Target Vegetation / Fuels	Initial Treatment / Primary treat.	Follow-up treatment / maintenance treat		
25-11A	BLM	18.9	Plant Series: DF / PP and DF / Tanoak Veg CC: Mid Seral Fuel Models: 8, 9, 10 FCC: 2, 3 - Understory of suppressed 1-4" diameter DF, madrone, and tanoak. A mid-seral stage of overstory DF with some PP and SP. Moderate dead and down material in the 10 to 100-hr. time lag fuel class contribute to fuel loading along with decadent brush component. - Unit has the steepest slope within the neighborhood with the southern aspect above the trail between the Rand water source and water tank to the ridge line being visible from the river.	Retain current FM 8 and convert areas of FM 9 & 10 to FM 8 to reduce potential for wildfire escape.	Live and dead 1-4" diameter undergrowth and dead and down fuels in the 10 to 100- hr. time lag fuel class.	Selective slashing with residuals spaced 14'x14' conifer and 20'x20' shrub/hardwood spacing. Hand pile burn piles. Potential pile density estimated to be 30-40 /acre. - Cut manzanita growing out of mining tailings.	Maintenance underburn, except in sensitive soil areas, to keep growth of vegetation in check Limited access to unit makes underburn problematic and slashing of new growth may be required as an alternative especially if tanoak responds vigorously. (overstory canopy is expected to shade sufficiently to minimize tanoak sprouting.).	- West end of unit fragile very steep soils susceptible to ravel. (See fuels treatment map). - Water line from the Rand water source to the water tank is on southern edge of unit. - Cultural sites are located throughout the unit (a reservoir in upper to middle part of unit, mining ditches, mine adit, metal pipes).	- Soil concerns in west end of unit: limit to piles to ≤30 piles/acre. - Area above trail leading from Rand water source and water tank to ridge line is visible from river. - No hand pile and burn to occur within 20' of the cultural buffers. Cultural Resource interest in keeping vegetation off of reservoir and removing <3" diameter vegetation. - Directional falling should be away from cutbanks, tailings, etc. Review procedures for working around cultural sites to any crews. - Buffering around cultural resources, removal of area due to steep slope leading down to Galice Road, and riparian areas comprise an area greater than 15 – 20% of unit to meet buffering requirements.

Appendix A: Defense and Threat Zones - Criteria for Selecting Leave Vegetation

1. The best available trees and shrubs shall be selected as leave vegetation. The average spacing may vary + or - 20% of the spacing stated
2. The largest, healthiest, best-formed trees shall be selected as leave trees. Characteristics used in the selection of leave trees include the following:
 - 1) Has no apparent damage to the main bole;
 - 2) Is not chlorotic;
 - 3) Demonstrates good vigor and is disease free;
 - 4) Has at least 40 percent crown ratio.
3. Multi-stem hardwoods, when selected as acceptable leave trees, or at the perimeter of the cutting zone shall be cut back to three (3) stems. Criteria for selecting which stems to leave shall be prioritized as follows:
 - 1) The largest diameters at 2' height above ground level.
 - 2) Best-formed, straightest, with the best developed crowns.
 - 3) Originates closest to ground level.
4. In areas containing a variety of conifer species, leave trees shall be selected using the following species preference:
 - 1) Sugar pine or ponderosa pine
 - 2) Douglas-fir
 - 3) Western red cedar or incense cedar
 - 4) True fir
5. In areas containing a variety of hardwood species, leave trees shall be selected using the following species preference:
 - 1) Black or white oak
 - 2) Pacific madrone
 - 3) Golden chinkapin
 - 4) Canyon live oak
6. The largest, healthiest, best-formed shrubs shall be selected as leave shrubs. Characteristics used in the selection of leave shrubs include the following:
 - 1) Has no apparent damage to the main bole or largest stems;
 - 2) Is not chlorotic;
 - 3) Demonstrates good vigor and is disease free;
 - 4) Has at least a 2-to-1 ratio of live to dead stems and leaves.
7. In areas containing a variety of shrub species, leave shrubs shall be selected using the following guidelines:
 - 1) Unique or uncommon species shall have preference for leave selection;
 - 2) Common species shall be selected for leave in proportion to their original ratio;
8. The following species will be retained: dogwood, vine maple, and big leaf maple.

D. General Forest Zone

There is no general forest zone in the Rand Neighborhood.

V. Implementation

A. How are we going to get the work done on the ground?

Several options for accomplishing the work on the ground exist. These include: individual property owners taking responsibility for treating on their own lands, BLM project specific service contracts, using the BLM's existing IDIQ fuel treatment contract, and using Oregon State Forestry crews under contract to the BLM.

The preferred approach at this time is to use the ODF crews. This is because of the complexity of the fuel reduction treatments in the Rand Neighborhood that is necessary to ensure that the cultural and scenic protection objectives are met. It will also afford greater opportunity to review and adjust work as it proceeds as BLM resource specialists work with the crews.

B. Project Timeline

Work could commence upon completion of a public review of the plan and final decision (see the attached project's Categorical Exclusion).

C. Funding options and Special funding options that might be available

Work on BLM lands or lands where the BLM holds a scenic easement and has the responsibility of managing the vegetation would be funded with BLM appropriated money. Work on private and other government lands could be funded through National Fire Plan grants or with BLM money under the Wyden Amendment authority (PL 104-208) and with the completion of appropriate agreements with these other land owners. BLM required resource surveys have been completed on all ownerships in this neighborhood and NEPA requirements for work on non-federal lands has been included in the present plan, corridor wide EA and neighborhood specific CE.

VI. Monitoring

Implementation monitoring will occur throughout on the ground work to ensure that the plan is implemented as proposed / accepted. This is done through contract administration and BLM's resource specialists being on site during certain aspects of the work (see plan specifics for this).

This monitoring will, among other things, ensure protection and enhancement of the natural scenic quality outstandingly remarkable value (ORV), ensure activities are occurring in conformance with the *Environmental Assessment for the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River Hellgate Section Hazardous Fuel Reduction Project Plan* (USDI 2000), determine if activities are producing the expected results and if activities are causing the effects identified in the Environmental Assessment (USDI 2000).

Post treatment effectiveness monitoring will focus on visual / scenic qualities and on modeled fire behavior.

Visuals. This monitoring will assess the visual impacts to ensure that VRM Class I (USDI 1995) standards are met: levels of change must not attract attention to the casual observer and change is

not substantial. The BLM's Visual Contrast Rating (2004) rating system will be used for this at the Key observation points identified in the plan.

Fire Behavior Modeling: A series of FireMon inventory plots have been established in the proposed fuel treatment area. These plots have been inventoried and will be inventoried again after the treatments are completed to assess (model) their effectiveness in altering potential fire behavior and thus reducing the probability of a high intensity wildfire occurring in the neighborhood.

No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other data. Original data were compiled from various sources. This information may not meet National Map Accuracy Standards. This product was developed through digital means and may be updated without notification.

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